PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB of

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

			,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
			<u>_</u>
Sheet	1	of	1

The state of the s						
Complete if Known						
Application Number						
Filing Date						
First Named Inventor	DIETER W. POHL					
Group Art Unit						
Examiner Name						
Attorney Docket Number	01-406					

			U.S. PATENT DOCU	MENTS		
Examiner Cite No.1		U.S. Patent Document Number Kind Code ² (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY 08-06-1991	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relen Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	XV 5,038,034		FUJITA			
ON		5,548,117	NAKAGAWA	08-20-1996		
Dev		5,838,005	MAJUMDAR ET AL.	11-17-1998		
_7/W		5,686,207	SUDA ET AL.	11-11-1997		
	 -	 				
						
						

		For	eign Patent De	ocument.	N PATENT DOCU	INICIAIS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁶ (If known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₈
		 						
		 						
	-							
		<u> </u>						
		1 1			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			

Examiner Signature

9-14-04

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WiPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

01-406

(use as many sheets as necessary)

of 2

Sheet

				U.S. PATENT DOCUM	MEN (S	T
Examiner Cite No.	Cha	U.S. Pa	atent Document	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication of	Pages Columns Lines Where Relevan
	Number	Kind Code ² (If known)	of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevan Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		5,908,562		OHTSU ET AL.	06-01-1999	
		 				
		 	_			
		 			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
						
		,				
						
		 			~ ~~~~~~	
		 				
		<u> </u>				
		 		 		

					FOREIG	N PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		
Examiner Cite No.1		Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines,		
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁶ (<i>if known</i>)	or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₈	
100/		٠	WIPO	99/08099			02-18-1999		
						- 17 74 9			
		\dashv							
		-							
		\dashv							
		\dashv							
							<u></u>		

Examiner Signature nal Walnute | Date | 9-

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Palent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 OU.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no percentage (Inchied to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid CMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Application Number 09/904,286 Filing Date July 12, 2001 First Named Inventor DIETER W. POHL Group Art Unit

Compl t if Known

(use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** of 2 **Attorney Docket Number**

		OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	т;
æv	١	APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS, American Institute of Physics, enlitled USE OF SOLID ELECTROLYTIC EROSION FOR GENERATING NANO-APERTURE NEAR-FIELD COLLECTORS, By D. Mulin et al., Vol. 71, No. 4, July 28, 1997, pages 437-439.	
M	•	OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA, entitled CHEMICAL SILVER COATING OF FIBER TIPS IN NEAR-FIELD SCANNING OPTICAL MICROSCOPY, By C.S. Vikram et al., Vol. 24, No. 10, May 15, 1999, pages 682-684.	
M		IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, entitled IN SITU SHARPENING OF ATOMIC FORCE MICROSCOPE TIPS, Vol. 38, No. 2, February 1, 1995, page 637.	
Der		PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, Vol. 1995, No. 11, December 26, 1995, JP 07 198314 A (JEOL LTD.), August 1, 1995.	
WV	· /	PATENT ABSTRACT OF JAPAN, Vol. 018, No. 430, August 11, 1994, JP 06 128800 A (Nikon Corp), May 10, 1994.	
RV		PATENT ABSTRACT OF JAPAN, Vol. 1999, No. 14, December 22, 1999, JP 11 248720 A (SEIKO INSTRUMENTS INC.), September 17, 1999.	
	-		
	-		
		·	

Examiner Signature	Monald Walest	Pate Considered	9/14/	04
-----------------------	---------------	--------------------	-------	----

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.